

needed light. He was opposed to any gag system, and in favor of a full and free discussion on all subjects. There were matters yet to come up here of the very greatest importance. The Chesapeake and Ohio Canal question, which affected the interests of the people of Maryland to the amount of millions, was to come up yet, and he submitted that to understand it properly extended debate was essential.

Mr. Kilbourn said the committee of the whole had but rarely been resorted to, and then on the most important questions, one of which was the judiciary report, which they had been discussing for several days past. He certainly did not think that important matter had occupied any more time than was absolutely necessary.

Mr. Vansant said the adoption of the order would not interfere with the continuance of the committee of the whole on the judiciary report.

Mr. Carter said this order was no attempt to choke off debate. If this was a partisan Convention the committee of the whole might be necessary for the protection of the minority. This was not the case here, the members of this Convention being of one accord.

Mr. Jones advocated the adoption of the order, and alluded to the delay occasioned on the negro testimony question, which had been thoroughly debated when the Declaration of Rights was under consideration, and had also been largely discussed on subsequent occasions.

The order was then adopted by a vote of 64 to 25.

The unfinished business, being the report of the committee on the judiciary, was then taken up, and the Convention resolved itself into committee of the whole (Mr. Dent, of St. Mary's, in the chair) for the consideration of the subject.

Mr. Carter moved to take up the two supplementary sections of the legislative article yet undisposed of.

Mr. Carter said the House was now very full—as full as it was likely to be—and as the entire legislative article could not be put in the hands of the committee on revision for engrossment until these two sections were disposed of, he hoped his motion would be agreed to.